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Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

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DRAFTED BY NEA:PWLANDE:LLC
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NEA ONLY
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL KARACHI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 293477

FOR AMBASSADOR BYROADE FROM ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:MASS PK US

SUBJECT: MILITARY SUPPLY POLICY

REF: ISLAMABAD 12225

1. I APPRECIATE YOUR CONCERN ABOUT THE DECISION ON THE HELICOPTER SALE AND ITS POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS FOR OTHER ARMS SALES TO PAKISTAN.

2. AS YOU CAN IMAGINE, WE HAVE HAD TO DEVELOP AN OVERALL INTERIM POLICY ON ARMS SALES WORLDWIDE UNTIL THE NEW ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESS ARE IN OFFICE. THIS POLICY IS TO DEFER SENDING POTENTIALLY CONTROVERSIAL ITEMS TO CONGRESS (EVEN ON AN INFORMAL BASIS). DECISIONS AFFECTING PAKISTAN ARE BEING MADE ON THIS GLOBAL BASIS. FOR EXAMPLE, WE ARE GOING AHEAD WITH NOTIFICATION ON RADIOS BUT DEFERRING ON HOWITZERS. MINOR ITEMS UNDER MUNITIONS CONTROL ARE BEING HANDLED ROUTINELY.

3. GIVEN OUR POLICY OF NOT PROVIDING P&A DATA UNLESS WE
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ARE PREPARED TO OFFER FOR SALE THE ITEM IN QUESTION, AND FACT THAT WE WOULD NOT BE PREPARED TO SEND NOTICE OF SALE

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ON ITEMS SUCH AS PAK HELICOPTERS TO CONGRESS DURING

CURRENT RECESS ON GROUNDS IT WOULD BE VIEWED AS CONTROVERSIAL, IT FOLLOWS THAT WE MUST DEFER DECISION ON PROVIDING P&A DATA.

4. SO FAR WE HAVE HAD NO INQUIRIES FROM THE PAKISTANIS BUT, EVEN IF WE DO, I DON'T THINK THEY WOULD HAVE MUCH TROUBLE IN ACCEPTING OUR POLICY ONCE THEY KNOW IT IS NOT DISCRIMINATORY. I SEE NO NEED TO CHANGE ANY ODRP PROCEDURES SINCE ANY NEW CASES WOULD NOT PROBABLY BE PROCESSED IN WASHINGTON UNTIL JANUARY UNDER NORMAL PROCEDURES.

5. WE CANTALKMORE ABOUT THIS MATTER WHEN YOU ARE IN WASHINGTON. ROBINSON

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